

Approaching the cross today reminds us that God took on human form in Jesus Christ **because we need a saviour.**

It confronts us with the hard truth that we need God to rescue us from ourselves.

This horrible virus has brought human beings very low. It reminds on a daily basis that we are not indestructible, not gods, not masters of our own destiny, not quite as in control as we thought we were, and would like to be.

Touching Christ's cross today – by means of this live stream or a cross that you have in your own home - means touching our own messy, arrogant, sinful brokenness, both as individuals and collectively as human beings.

It means taking off all of our masks, stripping away all our pretences, and acknowledging our need of **God's** help and mercy.

But much more than telling us something about ourselves, touching the cross today puts us in touch with **God's** nature.

The Cross most fully reveals the heart of God.

It reveals the sheer **depth** of God's love : by the greatness of what it cost him. We're not talking just a few bruises here. Jesus endured unimaginable suffering and gave his life for us.

It reveals how **amazing** God's love for us in that we simply don't deserve it. Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

It reveals a love that surpasses all others by the greatness of the **benefits** we receive from Christ's sacrifice. We're not just told that we're loved; we're given a place in the presence of God with fullness of joy and pleasures for evermore through the Cross.

And finally we see the immense love of God for us in the **freedom** with which Christ goes to his death. No-one made him; he wasn't simply the victim of circumstances. "No one takes my life from me;" Jesus said, "I lay it down of my own accord".

The cross is about US, our need of forgiveness, and of healing and a restored relationship with God,

but encountering the cross today is above all to sense the height and depth and length and breadth of *God's* love.

The mystery of these days draws us directly into the heart of a God who loves us far beyond what we can ever comprehend.

And so I invite you to take time to stop and contemplate the love of God, who became man and willingly died, so that you and I might share eternal life with Him.

Take some time to look into the eyes of Jesus on the cross and let His eyes touch your heart.

Behold and touch the cross and you behold and touch the mystery of God; the marvellous mystery of divine love.